

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBJECT Soviet Attitude toward the Russian Zone
CDU
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1. Early in April 1948, Colonel Tyulpanov interviewed Wickmann, Lobedanz, and Muschke, leading members of the Provisional Central Committee of the Russian Zone CDU. Tyulpanov referred to a meeting that CDU Landesverband Berlin intended to hold, and requested the three to declare this meeting illegal. This they agreed to do. On their return, however, the three communicated this decision to Georg Dertinger, General Secretary of the Russian Zone CDU, who said that it was not up to Germans to do the Russians' work for them, and that to do as Tyulpanov wanted in this case would bring up difficulties with Landesverband Berlin. The probable result of this would be that the "reasonable" Schreiber, present Chairman of Landesverband Berlin, would be replaced by the much more intransigent Landsberg. This argument succeeded in convincing the others, and it was agreed that Dertinger should inform Tyulpanov of the changed decision.

2. Judging from the above and other similar events, Dertinger has come to the conclusion that the Russians are trying to widen the breach in the CDU and are only allowing it and the LDP to exist as sops to mollify the bourgeoisie. He feels that eventually both these parties will be liquidated, but claims that he and the others at present leading the party must cling to their positions as long as possible for the sake of the party members in the eastern zone.

3. On 25 April, Ernst Lemmer and Dr. Schreiber were to meet [] at [] to discuss the possibility of forming a national people's movement to counter the Volkskongress, and then forming from such a movement a West German Government that could be proclaimed as an "all-German" government.

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([] Comment: This information is somewhat improbable and may be the result of some story put about by Lemmer in order to dispel the belief that he might go over to the Russians.)

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